

give the impression that we're creating another dividing line in Europe after we've worked for decades to get rid of the one that existed before. What we want is a secure Europe and a stable Europe. And I think that the proposal that I put forward would permit the expansion of NATO, and I fully expect that it will lead to that at some point.

Q. A part of the feeling of neglect in Europe is that there is not really a response of the State Department, from the European Bureau, to discussions with the diplomats here. They feel that inadequate. Are you aware of that, and what's your comment on that?

The President. No, I'm not, so I can't have a comment.

Q. [Inaudible]

The President. I'm going to go see them next week and try to convince them that—[inaudible]—and I hope that I can. I have a very high regard for them. I'm going to see them next week. Ambassador Albright and General Shalikashvili are going ahead of me just in the next few days. So we're going to work very hard with them and see what we can do.

NOTE: The exchange began at 5:10 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House.

Nomination for Ambassador to New Zealand and Western Samoa

January 5, 1994

The President announced today that he intends to nominate Josiah Beeman to be the U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand and to Western Samoa.

"Josiah Beeman's career has been marked by both accomplishment and concern," said the President. "He will serve our country well as Ambassador."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nomination for Director of the United States Geological Survey

January 5, 1994

The President announced today that he intends to nominate Gordon P. Eaton to be the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey.

"Gordon Eaton is a highly respected earth scientist with a strong understanding of the workings of the USGS," said the President. "I believe he will do a fine job as Director."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Proclamation 6644—Death of Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.

January 6, 1994

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As a mark of respect for the memory of the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., former Speaker of the House of Representatives, I hereby order, by the authority vested in me as President of the United States of America by section 175 of title 36 of the United States Code, that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff upon all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions until his interment. I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff for the same length of time at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of January, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:32 a.m., January 6, 1994]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on January 7.

Statement on the Death of Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.

January 6, 1994

The Nation mourns the loss of our beloved former Speaker of the House, Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Jr.

As U.S. House Speaker, Tip O'Neill was the Nation's most prominent, powerful, and loyal champion of working people. He loved politics and government because he saw how politics and government could make a difference in people's lives. And he loved people most of all—his neighbors, his constituents, and his family.

Last fall, Tip was generous to me with his advice and his stature when he joined our effort to win approval of the North American Free Trade Agreement. His stand moved me, because working people had been the cause of his long and colorful career, and in his heart he knew that more open trade would mean a better quality of life for working Americans.

On a day of sadness for my family and Tip's, Hillary and I wish his wife, Millie, and their family our deepest sympathies for a husband and a father now gone and for a beautiful life well lived.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

January 2

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary and Chelsea Clinton returned to Washington, DC, from Hilton Head, SC.

January 3

In the afternoon, the President met with the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

January 4

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with the Vice President.

In the evening, the President had dinner with experts on European affairs.

January 5

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with columnists.

January 6

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Hot Springs, AR, to attend the funeral of his mother, Virginia Clinton Kelley, on January 8.

The President appointed Katherine D. Seelman to be the Director of the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, part of the Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

January 7

The President announced that he intends to nominate William A. Reinsch to be the Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration.

The President appointed the following individuals to Senior Executive Service positions in the administration:

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Tony Hernandez, Regional Administrator, Region 8
Joseph J. O'Hern, Regional Administrator, Region 7

Department of Agriculture

Vicki J. Hicks, Assistant Deputy Administrator for Commodity Operations, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service
Mary Ann Keeffe, Deputy Administrator for Special Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service
R. Alan King, Deputy Administrator for Commodity Operations, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service